

ABSTRACT

A method of working metal in which the microstructure of metal body is rendered fine to thereby enhance the strength, ductility or homogeneity thereof; a metal body obtained by the metal working method; and a metal-containing ceramic body obtained by the metal working method. In this metal working method, the deformation resistance of metal body or metal-containing ceramic body (hereinafter referred to simply as "metal body") is lowered locally to thereby form low deformation resistance regions in the metal body, and shear deformation of the low deformation resistance regions is effected so as to fine the microstructure of metal body. In particular, the metal body is formed in unidirectionally drawn configuration so as to produce low deformation resistance regions crossing the metal body. Further, with respect to two non-low deformation resistance regions arranged to sandwich low deformation resistance region crossing the metal body, one non-low deformation resistance region is caused to have a relative position change to the other non-low deformation resistance region so as to effect shear deformation of the low deformation resistance region. The low deformation resistance regions can be moved along the direction of drawing of the metal body.